Supplement Request Form

Project Title: Enhanced Tree Removal (ETR) 2023	**Project Number:** ETR 2023
Date Prepared: 05/24/2024	**Company:** Other - Please indicate CL&P Electric Distribution 11 Choose an item.
Organization: Vegetation Management	**Class(es) of Plant: Other**
Project Initiator: [redacted]	**Project Category: Annual**
Project Manager: [redacted]	**Project Type:** Specific
Project Sponsor: [redacted]	**Project Purpose: Reliability**
Estimated in service date: 12/31/2023	**Capital Investment part of original Operating Plan:** No
Current Authorization Amount: $18,000,000	**O&M Expenses part of request:** No
Supplement Request: $4,750,000	**Other:**
Total Request: $22,750,000	

Supplement Justification

Supplement Request Forms must be completed for projects in accordance with the Project Authorization Policy and approval levels in the Delegation of Authority Policy (DOA) as follows:

For Corporate Shared Services Projects:
For projects $500K to $16.5M - An increase in total authorized cost > 15% or;
For projects > $16.5M - An increase in total authorized cost > $2.5M

For Distribution and Transmission Operations Projects:
For projects $500K to $16.5M- An increase in total authorized cost > 15% or;
For projects > $16.5M - An increase in total authorized cost > $2.5M

Justification for Additional Resources

An authorization of an additional $4,750,000 is requested for the Connecticut Distribution 2023 Enhanced Tree Removal (ETR) capital project (id: ETR2023) which is part of Eversource CT's annual distribution vegetation maintenance plan. Part of the increase was offset by decreased spend within another 2023 Connecticut Distribution Vegetation Management capital program. The total capital request is $22,750,000.

The ETR project strategically removes trees to proactively improve system reliability and cannot be mitigated by distribution cycle trimming programs alone. Tree removals, in conjunction with cycle pruning, drive improved reliability performance. Additionally, the service area has experienced drought conditions and insect infestations that have negatively impacted tree health and there are signs of increased tree mortality for the coming years. One of the largest impacts on tree mortality has been the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). EAB was first found in the state in 2012 and through 2020 has now been found in every municipality. Ash trees make up on average 6% of the hundreds of millions of trees in Connecticut. Tens of thousands of ash trees have been infested, which ultimately results in

mortality of the tree and potential for it to fall on power lines and cause an outage. Vegetation Management has been proactively and reactively addressing removal of ash in all stages of infestation and mortality over the last decade, with over 6,400 ash trees removed in 2023 before they could cause an outage.

A large volume of hazard trees were identified by Eversource's licensed Arborist's across scheduled trimming circuits during 2023. Hazard trees are those that are dead, decaying or structurally unsound and could impact the electrical infrastructure if they were to fail. Hazard trees threaten reliability both during weather events and during blue sky days as their structural instability increases the likelihood of limb or tree whole tree failure. Eversource's licensed Arborists prioritize tree removals based on the condition of the tree, proximity to the conductors and potential customer impact. Several thousand more trees were removed in 2023 than in 2022. Based on past years, an average of twenty-eight hazard trees per mile are identified and removed, but in 2023 thirty hazard trees per mile were identified. The total number of hazard trees addressed was also increased because 105 more miles of backbone were scheduled for 2023 vs 2022 (1,192 and 1,086 respectively).

Additional emphasis was put on targeting the worst performing circuits and specific device to device protection zones with high customer counts with past reliability issues. This included circuit segments identified with the collaborative effort between Distribution Engineering, System Planning and Vegetation Management to focus on the top 10 worst circuits for Connecticut customer SAIDI. The number of hazard trees in prioritized zones with a high likelihood of failure was higher than the budget could address. Circuits 48C7, 15M1 and 26E8 have historically poor reliability performance for tree related outages. 3,495 hazard trees on 35.9 miles on these circuits were identified, permissioned and removed, or 97 hazard trees per mile, to improve reliability. These circuit are historically poor reliability performer due to location, length and tree exposure. They are also areas that had numerous ash trees present and oak trees that had died from spongy moth infestation that needed to be addressed before causing outages.

Supplement Cost Summary (in thousands)

Capital Costs	Prior Authorized	Supplemental Request	Total
Direct Capital Costs			
Internal Labor	17,485	4,603	22,088
Outside Services			
Materials			
Removals			
Risk and Contingency			
Other			
Subtotal	17,485	4,603	22,088
Indirect Capital Costs			
Indirect/Overheads (including benefits)	515	147	662
Capitalized interest or AFUDC, if any			
Subtotal	515	147	662
Total Customer Contribution			
Total Capital Project Costs	**18,000**	**4,750**	**22,750**

Appendix 5
Subsidiary Board Approval Package Template